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26 October 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Disadvantages of an [   ] Readout System

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1. **Servicing difficulties** - There are few [   ] teletype
systems in this country and, consequently, a lack of trained service-
men. As the readout devices wear, servicing will become a difficult
problem. In addition, replacement parts are not generally available.
NOTE: [   ] has no technician specifically trained on [   ] that
is available.

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2. [   ] **effectiveness** - In view of the advanced design of
the [   ] readout system would be obsolete because of
speed and flexibility. The present model [   ] is capable
of 5.2 characters a second or approximately 10 seconds per readout.
Even with a buffered storage readout, this is slower than the ability
of the operator to make multiple pointings. In addition, the [   ]
system does not allow any flexibility for alternations of readout or
insertions of additional information for computer use. Additionally
is the difficulty of utilizing five-channel tape.

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3. **Proposed system** - A far more effective readout system would
be one consisting of a high speed tape punch compatible to modern com-
puters and a conventional typewriter with provision for insertion of
additional information for computer use. One such system would consist
of a Telecomputing High Speed Tape Perforator, an [   ] electric type-
writer, with auxiliary keyboard, with an option of utilizing both units
singly or together.

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The tape punch is capable of 40 characters a second and is offered
with an option of wired matrix boards or plug-in units which are readily
changeable for any output code you desire to use. It is capable of any
combination of five to eight channels, dependent only on the matrix used.

Most of the advantages of such a system are readily apparent. The
three most important being compatibility with any computer, speed in
keeping with the comparator's advanced design, and maintenance ease.
One such maintenance advantage of the plug in matrix models is the inter-
changeability of the matrix boards. A spare board could be used to
minimize down time while the other board is being repaired.

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The punch can be mounted in the same cabinet with the [   ]
accumulators and may replace the need for any matrix [   ]

Attached is a comparative cost sheet for the two systems. However,
it is not complete and should be considered only as a rough guide.
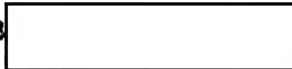Less expensive systems may be available.

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Tape punch with wired matrix

IBM typewriter with standard 16" carriage.

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